

PAUL CUNNINGHAM

WARD 2

February 19, 2016

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PAUL'S NOTE

This week, our city opened two major programs that will help veterans in our community.

On Wednesday, La Frontera opened Rally Point Apartments on Stone Avenue in what used to be known as the Old Pueblo Club. The site has 30 apartments, a cafeteria, a workout room a convenience store as well as on-site counselling services.

The apartments are part of an effort by the City of Tucson to end veterans' homelessness in our community. At last count, we have housed 1,444 vets and hope to house all of the estimated 1,650 homeless vets in our community.

Rally Point, a local veteran-to-veteran organization that has done tremendous work, will be moving their offices to the building as well. My staff has been told that the rental office on the first floor will be open for walk-ins. If you know a veteran that needs help, 101 S. Stone will be a great place to send them.

On Thursday, Arizona's first Fisher
House opened at the campus of the Southern Arizona Veterans' Hospital. The Fisher
House offers living space for the families of veterans that are being treated at the hospital.

Many of us think of our VA hospital as a place where veterans from our region go for help, but the hospital serves veterans from across the West.

There are specialized surgical services that our VA hospital offers that attract patients from as far away as Texas. Services are offered for the blind in an area that includes California and Wyoming. It is crucial for families to be able to stay near where their loved ones are being treated, and it's an honor to have the first facility of this kind in Arizona to come to Tucson. I'm glad that we can our community can offer a bit of hospitality in exchange for all vets and their families have sacrificed for us.

Because of a recent retirement in the

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Paul's Note, Continued

Ward 2 office, we are not offering notary services at this time. A member of my staff is working on getting certified and we should be doing so again soon.

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People have been calling the office about free shredding events. Ward 2 was the first council office to offer this service. They've become more popular and thus harder to schedule, and a staff change at the local Shred-It office meant that our office has to pay a considerable amount to host the events.

We are hoping to schedule some events in the future. In the meantime, we will let you know about shredding events on the east side both in our newsletter and on the council website.

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Registration for Little League is still open for Palo Verde, Frontier and Sabino. You can consult http://www.eteamz.com/azdistrict5/ for more information.

PALO VERDE RESOURCE CENTER

Palo Verde Family Center, housed at Palo Verde High School, 1302 S Avenida Vega, offers seminars, workshops and classes.

Check out the February Calendar of Activities at Palo Verde for the schedule of classes offered this month.

Special Seminars and Workshops at Palo Verde during February 2016:

Triple P: Free for parents of 0-5 year olds.

Parenting Wisely: For parents of 12-19 year olds.

Mi Vida: una serie de talleres en español a mujeres que estén interesadas en conocer los recursos de nuestra comunidad para fortalecer y estabilizar sus vidas.

For more information about the center, call 584-7455.

All year, the center will host events and classes open to the community. Please come by.

SAGUARO NATIONAL PARK

The National Park Service is celebrating its 100th birthday in 2016 and Saguaro National Park is celebrating with events scheduled throughout the year.

For additional information and updated details on all events, visit our website: http://www.nps.gov/sagu/getinvolved/2016.htm

You can join the celebration both in the park and out in town. Currently, the park is working with Arizona State Museum, on the University of Arizona campus, to host the National Parks in Quilts show through February 25. Next week, you will see NPS staff from across the state of Arizona walking in the Rodeo Parade with our hometown of Tucson.

Mark your calendars. On March 1, the park celebrates its 83rd birthday and the Centennial Saguaro cactus, located in the park's east district in front of the visitor center. Planted in 1966 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the National Park Service, this cactus is believed to be 100 years old. Join us, Intermountain Regional Director Sue Masica, and local highschool students for cake and a look forward to the next 100 years. Special presentations about the history of the NPS will be held at 11am and 2pm, and staff will be available to help you plant your own saguaro seed to take home until 2pm. 3693 S. Old Spanish Trail, Tucson, AZ 87530

On March 6th, from 10am until 5pm, Saguaro National Park and Western National Parks Association will hold a birthday celebration that only happens every hundred years. The Park's west side location (Tucson Mountain District) will host special interpretive programs planned throughout the day, a kid's corner hosting children's book author Sylvia Long, mini hikes down into the washes and saguaro plantings to take home. Join us at 11:30 a.m. for an exclusive performance by the award-winning Mariachi Aztlan de Pueblo High School. Food will be available for purchase from 11:30 a.m. to 1pm. This event is being co-hosted by the Western National Parks Association and Friends of Saguaro National Park. Red Hills Visitor

Center, Tucson Mountain District (west) 2700 N Kinney Road, Tucson, AZ 85743

Watch for more information and we hope to help you Find Your Park this year.



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CAROL WEST SENIOR CENTER

Tax Aide: AARP free tax aide is offering services at Udall Center on Mondays and Wednesdays form 9 am to 12 pm through April 13, 2016.

Rodeo Luncheon: A Rodeo Luncheon with musical guest performance will be held on Thursday, February 25 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The event is sponsored by AcdentCare. The cost is \$5.00 per person. For more information, please contact the Carol West Senior Addition, 791-4121

PARKS PROGRAMS

Eggstravaganza: The 15th Annual Eggstravaganza will be held on Saturday, March 27 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Mansfield Park (2000 N 4th Ave). The free family event will include fun carnival games, egg hunt, prizes and the Easter Bunny.

Spring 2016 Leisure Classes: Session II of Spring classes begin March 20.

Summer 2016 Activity Guide: Watch for the Summer Tucson Parks and Recreation 2016 Activity Guide which will be published on Monday, April 18, 2016.



The Activity Guide will have complete information on classes, programs, aquatics, and registration. The guide can also be viewed at www.ezeereg.com.

Contact Registration Services at 791-4877 for more information or questions.

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Tucsonaz.gov/ ward2 Remember to like Paul on Facebook! Please bring these items to the Ward 2 Office for the following charities:

THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK—Non Perishable Items

DIAPER BANK OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA— Infant/Child/Adult Diapers

TIHAN - Personal Care Items for Individuals and Families in Need

LIONS CLUB—Eye Glasses

DANCING IN THE STREETS ARIZONA—Ballet/ Dance Equipment

CASA MARIA—Plastic bags

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

The next Mayor and Council meeting will be on **Tuesday**, **February 23** Regular Session starts at 5:30 pm following an afternoon study session. There is always a short call to the audience before the business portion of the meeting. Council chambers are located downtown at 255 W Alameda.

The agendas for the meetings are posted online at http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/clerks/mcdocs

